

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for providing information at an engineering portal site, comprising the steps of:

receiving an instruction input by a user;

searching a meta database or a case database in response to the instruction input, each said database being previously stored in a content offer server, the meta database including a rule extracted from a plurality of actual examples, or a the case database containing regarding a solution to solve a problem, in response to said problem from the user each example including an instrument having a predetermined function to determine information on a relationship between a solution and a problem to be solved thereby; and

displaying said data regarding the examples of solutions solution to said solve a problem from the user related to the instruction input with corresponding instruments by use of said search based on a result of said searching.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a plurality of solution rules based on said meta rule searched out from said meta database in order to urge the user to think up an idea for a new solution.

3. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a plurality of examples of solution searched out from said case database

in order to urge the user to think up an idea for a new solution.

4. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a plurality of solution rules based on said meta rule searched out from said meta database, and a plurality of proposed contents that offer a solution based on said solution rules in order to urge the user to think up an idea for a new solution.

5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a plurality of solution rules based on said ~~meta~~meta rule searched out from said meta database, a plurality of examples of solution searched out from said case database, and a plurality of contents that offer said solution examples in order to urge the user to think up an idea for a new solution.

6. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein in order that each of customers can be offered customized solutions and contents, a company database is provided that is concerned with companies which said customers belong to, and searched for each customer's information, and problems and solutions supposed for each customer are enumerated by use of said search result.

7. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein in order that each of customers can be offered customized solutions and contents, a company database is provided that is concerned with companies which said customers belong to, and a problem from each customer is easily solved by displaying said contents selected according to the type of said customers.

8. (currently amended) An information service providing system comprising:

- means for accepting data about a problem sent from a demander who requests for providing an information service;
- means for transmitting said accepted data to an information providing server;
- means for searching a meta database or a case database, which have been stored in a content offer server in advance, in response to an instruction input by the demander, the meta database including a rule extracted from a plurality of actual examples, the case database including a solution to solve a problem, each example including an instrument having a predetermined function to determine an information on a relationship between a solution and a problem to be solved thereby;
- ~~and executing processes of searching a solution database having data of solution rules by use of said data transmitted from said demander;~~
- ~~means for transmitting said search result from said information providing server to said demander; and~~
- ~~means for receiving said search result sent from said information service providing server and supplying said result to the outside~~displaying data regarding the examples of solutions to solve the problem of the accepted data with corresponding instruments based on a result of said searching.

9. (original) A system according to claim 8, wherein said data accepting means receives data to be improved.

10. (original) A system according to claim 9, wherein said solution database stores said data of said solution rules concerned with said problem and said received data to be improved in association with each other.

11. (currently amended) A recording medium that can be read by a computer, the medium containing instructions stored therein for providing a solution to a problem, the instructions when executed causing the computer to perform:

~~and that accepts~~accepting data regarding an instruction by a user of a
~~problem and provides a solution to said problem, said medium having a function to~~
~~receive-receiving~~ said data of said problem; ~~a function to~~
~~search~~searching ~~storage device having solution rules stored in association~~
~~with said data, and a function to extract a solution corresponding to the result of~~
~~having searched for said solution rules~~a meta database or a case database, which
have been stored in a content offer server in advance, in response to the instruction,
the meta database including a rule extracted from a plurality of actual examples, the
case database including a solution to solve the problem, each example including an
instrument having a predetermined function to determine an information on a
relationship between the solution and the problem to be solved thereby; and
displaying data regarding the examples of solutions to solve the problem of
the accepted data with corresponding instruments based on a result of the function
to search.

12. (currently amended) A recording medium that can be read by a computer, the medium containing instructions stored therein for proving a solution to a problem,
the instructions when executed causing the computer to perform:

~~and that accepts~~accepting data regarding an instruction by a user of a
~~problem; and provides a solution to said problem, said medium having a function to~~
~~receive-receiving~~ said data of said problem; ~~a function to~~

~~search searching~~ either ~~first storage device~~ a meta database or a case database, which have been stored in a content offer server in advance, having solution rules stored in association with said data ~~or second storage device~~ regarding a solution to solve the problem having examples of solution in association with said problem, each of the examples including an instrument having a predetermined function; and, ~~and a function to~~
~~extract~~ extracting and displaying a solution corresponding to the results ~~a result~~ of having searched for said solution rules.

13. (original) A recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said function to extract said solution corresponding to said solution rules has a function to search a content database having information of solutions associated with said solution rules.

14. (new) A method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined function of the instrument comprises an analyzing function.

15. (new) A method of claim 14, wherein the instruction inputted by the user relates to a combination of a state selection, a part selection and an analysis condition of selection, and a corresponding solution comprises a combination of an analytical technique and an analytical instrument.

16. (new) A method of claim 1, further comprising a step of displaying a history of said instructions input by said user.

17. (new) A method of claim 15, further comprising a step of displaying a plurality of instruments in the solution with their priority levels in an order of degree of difficulty in destroying a sample to be analyzed when a morphologic observation is selected as the analysis selection.

18. (new) A system of claim 8, wherein the predetermined function of the instrument comprises an analyzing function.

19. (new) A system of claim 18, wherein the instruction inputted by the demander relates to a combination of a state selection, a part selection and an analysis condition of selection, and a corresponding solution comprises a combination of an analytical technique and an analytical instrument.

20. (new) A system of claim 8, the displaying means further displaying a history of said instructions input by said demander.

21. (new) A system of claim 19, the displaying means further displays a plurality of instruments in the solution with their priority levels in an order of degree of difficulty in destroying a sample to be analyzed when a morphologic observation is selected as the analysis selection.

22. (new) A recording medium of claim 11, wherein the predetermined function of the instrument comprises an analyzing function.

23. (new) A recording medium of claim 22, wherein the instruction inputted by

the user relates to a combination of a state selection, a part selection and an analysis condition of selection, and a corresponding solution comprises a combination of an analytical technique and an analytical instrument.

24. (new) A recording medium of claim 11, the displaying the function further displaying a history of said instructions of said user.

25. (new) A recording medium of claim 23, the function further displays a plurality of instruments in the solution with their priority levels in an order of degree of difficulty in destroying a sample to be analyzed when a morphologic observation is selected as the analysis selection.

26. (new) A recording medium of claim 12, wherein the predetermined function of the instrument comprises an analyzing function.

27. (new) A recording medium of claim 26, wherein the instruction inputted by the user relates to a combination of a state selection, a part selection and an analysis condition of selection, and a corresponding solution comprises a combination of an analytical technique and an analytical instrument.

28. (new) A recording medium of claim 12, the another function further displaying a history of said instructions of said user.

29. (new) A recording medium of claim 27, the another function further displays a plurality of instruments in the solution with their priority levels in an order

of degree of difficulty in destroying a sample to be analyzed when a morphologic observation is selected as the analysis selection.

30. (new) A method for providing information at an engineering portal site, comprising the steps of:

searching a meta database or a case database, which have been stored in a content offer server in advance, in response to an instruction input by a user, the meta database including a rule extracted from a plurality of actual examples regarding a solution to solve a problem, each of the examples including an analytical instrument to determine an information on a relationship between the solution and the problem to be solved thereby, the instruction being related to a combination of a state selection, a part selection and an analysis condition of selection, and a corresponding solution comprising a combination of an analytical technique and the analytical instrument; and

displaying data regarding the examples of solutions to solve the problem along with corresponding instrument based on a search result, history of input instructions, and a plurality of instruments in the solutions with their priority levels in an order of degree of difficulty in destroying a sample to be analyzed when a morphologic observation is selected as the analysis selection.

31. (new) An information service providing system comprising:
means for accepting data about a problem sent from a demander who requests for providing an information service;
means for transmitting said accepted data to an information providing server;
means for searching a meta database or a case database , which have been

stored in a content offer server in advance, in response to an instruction input by the demander, the meta database including a rule extracted from a plurality of actual examples regarding a solution to solve a problem, each of the examples including an analytical instrument to determine an information on a relationship between the solution and the problem to be solved, the instruction being related to a combination of a state selection, a part selection and an analysis condition of selection, and a corresponding solution comprising a combination of an analytical technique and the analytical instrument; and

means for displaying data regarding the examples of solutions to solve the problem along with corresponding instruments based on a search result, history of input instructions, and a plurality of instruments in the solutions with their priority levels in an order of degree of difficulty in destroying a sample to be analyzed when a morphologic observation is selected as the analysis selection.

32 (new) A recording medium that can be read by a computer, the recording medium containing instructions stored therein for providing a solution to a problem, the instructions when executed causing the computer to perform:

accepting data regarding an instruction by a user of a problem;

receiving said data of said problem;

searching a meta database or a case database, which have been stored in a content offer server in advance, in response to the instruction, the meta database including a rule extracted from a plurality of actual examples regarding a solution to solve the problem, each of the examples including an analytical instrument to determine an information on a relationship between the solution and the problem to be solved thereby, the instruction being related to a combination of a state selection,

a part selection and an analysis condition of selection, and a corresponding solution comprising a combination of an analytical technique and an analytical instrument;
and

displaying data regarding the examples of solution to solve the problem along with corresponding instruments by use of a search result, history of input instructions, and a plurality of instruments in the solution with their priority levels in an order of degree of difficulty in destroying a sample to be analyzed when a morphologic observation is selected as the analysis selection.

33. (new) A recording medium that can be read by a computer, the medium having instructions stored therein for providing a solution to a problem, the instructions when executed causing the computer to perform:

accepting data regarding an instruction by a user of a problem;

receiving said data of said problem;

searching either a meta database or a case database, which have been stored in a content offer server in advance, having solution rules stored in association with said data regarding a solution to solve the problem having examples of solutions in association with said problem, each of the examples including an analytical instrument, the instruction being related to a combination of a state selection, a part selection and an analysis condition of a selection, and a corresponding solution comprising a combination of an analytical technique and the analytical instrument; and

extracting and displaying a solution corresponding to a result of having searched for said solution rules, history of input instructions, and a plurality of instruments in the solution with their priority levels in an order of degree of difficulty

in destroying a sample to be analyzed when a morphologic observation is selected as the analysis selection.